

Message Text

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TAGS: SENV, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT; PROJECT 02.05-51,
ARID ECOSYSTEMS.

1. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE DATED 4-25-78
TO DR. V.V. KRINITSKY, MAIN CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION,
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WITH COPY TO KAZAKOV, HYDROMET.

2. 02.05-51 4-25-78

DR. V.V. KRINITSKY
MAIN CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
ORLIKOV PEREULOK 1-11
MOSCOW 1-139

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DEAR VASILI VASILEVICH:

DR. FRED WAGNER OF UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY ASKED ME TO INFORM
YOU THAT HE WILL BE ABROAD FOR SEVEN MONTHS BEGINNING IN
SEPTEMBER 1978. DR. WAGNER MAY RETURN TO THE U.S. IN
APRIL 1979, BUT WILL REGRETFULLY NOT BE ABLE TO RECEIVE
A SOVIET DELEGATION AT THAT TIME.

SINCE PROJECT LEADERS WILL NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THIS YEAR TO PLAN COOPERATIVE FUTURE WORK PRIOR TO THE US-USSR JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN NOVEMBER, THE US SIDE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS VIA CORRESPONDENCE THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF OUR JOINT WORK IN ARID LANDS. SINCE OUR COOPERATION BEGAN, LITTLE INFORMATION HAS BEEN EXCHANGED ON THE STATUS OF ARID LAND RESEARCH IN BOTH COUNTRIES. THE U.S. SIDE FEELS THAT A THOROUGH RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE PROJECT IS NECESSARY WITH PRIORITIES TO BE IDENTIFIED BY BOTH SIDES.

WE WOULD VERY MUCH REQUEST FROM THE SOVIET SIDE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN ORDER TO BEST EVALUATE AND DEVELOP FUTURE US PARTICIPATION IN JOINT ARID LAND WORK.

1. A STATEMENT OF WHAT THE SOVIET SIDE FEELS TO BE THE AIM AND DIRECTION OF JOINT ARID ECOSYSTEM WORK.
2. A DETAILED LIST OF PERCEIVED PROBLEMS IN ARID LAND PROTECTION IN THE USSR.
3. A LIST OF MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF ARID LANDS IN THE USSR WHERE JOINT WORK COULD BE CONDUCTED.

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4. SYNOPTIC DATA: HOW MUCH HARSH DUNED LAND EXISTS IN MAJOR ARID AREAS; HOW MUCH OF ARID LAND IS POPULATED AND HOW MUCH REMAINS UNCULTIVATED; WHAT TYPE OF LAND USE PRACTICES ARE UNDERTAKEN ON UNCULTIVATED ARID LAND (I.E., KARAKUM AND KYZYLKUM); WHAT TYPE OF GOVERNMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS ARE THERE THAT WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT; WHAT INSTITUTES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAJORITY OF ARID LAND RESEARCH IN THE USSR; WHAT PUBLICATIONS ARE PRODUCED BY THESE INSTITUTES AND WHO ARE THE MAJOR SPECIALISTS IN ARID LAND RESEARCH. SINCE OUR COOPERATION WILL BE MINIMAL IN THIS PROJECT THIS YEAR WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE ABOVE DATA BY WAY OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE. IN RETURN, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS THE SOVIET SIDE MAY HAVE ON U.S. ARID LAND STUDIES.

HOPEFULLY THIS PROGRAM MAY BE DEVELOPED MORE ACTIVELY IN THE FUTURE. BEST WISHES, RAISA SCRIABINE. VANCE

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